

4. Is it certain that after the storage period the submarine reactor plant would be dismantled for piecemeal disposal, or is there a possibility that after inspection there might be yet further storage periods planned on the seabed? The uncertainty over the timescales must be immense, and we must ensure that our preparations keep as many options open as possible for as long as possible. I imagine the ~~highest~~ ^{plans} hope must be that everyone will forget about these submarines and that they will be allowed to quietly rot away indefinitely.

5. Preparation of Reactor Plant

Agreed that RC should not be cement filled. Agree the general conclusions about bulkhead isolation and system integrity. Agree also that the primary circuit is preferably dry. If the compartment is left dry, it would not be necessary to drain the primary shield tank of chromate solution. Obviously a detailed scheme will have to be worked up for primary system preparation.

6. Towing, Scuttling and Salvage

No comments on these areas, beyond that the scuttling and salvage arrangements would be vastly simplified by not having to arrange to fill the pressure hull with water. The paper seems to imply that even with all main ballast tanks flooded the pressure hull retains positive buoyancy. Is this the case?

7. Recovery and Transport from Storage Site

Agreed that main ballast tank integrity must be highly suspect at the end of the storage period. Would the recovery operation be helped by securing high integrity pontoons to either side of the pressure hull, which could be pumped or blown out to give slight positive or negative buoyancy during the recovery operation? Also would it be prudent to mount non corrodible tubes under the outside of the pressure hull, to help the task of reeving lifting cables when the time comes to recover?

PJHEvans
P J H EVANS
FC39 2524FA